

A NEW SPECIES OF *PELINA* (DIPTERA: EPHYDRIDAE) FROM THE NEOTROPICAL REGION^{1,2}

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ABSTRACT: A new species of *Pelina* from Mexico is described. This is the first record of this genus from well within the Neotropical Region.

Since my revision of the genus *Pelina* for the Nearctic Region (Clausen, 1973), I have found only one new species which was from Mexico and I then considered it as being from the southernmost extension of the Nearctic (Clausen, 1985). Now, as a result of a recent collecting trip to southern Mexico, Wayne N. Mathis of the (U.S.) National Museum of Natural History has collected a series of *Pelina* specimens, clearly of a new species, from well within the Neotropical Region. This is the first record of the occurrence of this genus in the neotropics.

I am not including any species key as this is the only distinctly Neotropical species and is easily distinguished from the Nearctic species using the characters in the following diagnosis.

Pelina mathisi Clausen, new species

Diagnosis: Apex of scutellum truncate, apical scutellar tubercles very large and long, length R_{4+5} 1.63 to 1.84 mm, and length M_{1+2} 1.02 to 1.19 mm. Male with short, broad surstyli with short, rounded, apical projection and internally with long, curved, pointed projections which apparently fit into pits on lateral fragments of sternite 5. Female with anterior apex of mesothoracic tibiae with black setae and apical spur, sternites 7 and 8 slightly narrower than sternite 4.

Description: Male. Total body length 2.79 to 3.03 mm; shining black with brassy, coppery, silvery and greyish pruinosity.

Head shining black with brassy pruinosity except as noted; length 0.51 to 0.54 mm; 1 large and 3 or 4 small pairs of orbital setae; vertex with brassy pruinosity above and below; gena black with greyish to silvery pruinosity. Face shining black with dense greyish to silvery pruinosity; parafacial setae in 2 more or less distinct rows, top row with 1 large and 2 small, divergent setae, bottom row with 1 large and 1 or 2 small, convergent setae. Cyepus with silvery to greyish pruinosity, mouthparts with greyish pruinosity. Antenna dark with brassy pruinosity; arista dark brown, very slightly plumose dorsally.

Thorax shining black with coppery pruinosity, brassy to faint greyish pruinosity between acrostichal and dorsocentral setal rows, cuticle beneath stripes with fine, transverse, ripple-like sculpturing; scutum length 0.78 to 0.88 mm; pleura shining black with brassy pruinosity

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above, becoming greyish anteriorly, posteriorly and below. Scutellum (Fig. 3) shining black with coppery pruinosity, length 0.24 to 0.31 mm, truncate at apex, apical tubercles very large and long, apical and lateral scutellar setae large. Legs black except tarsi reddish, all covered with brassy to greyish pruinosity; prothoracic tibiae with long yellow setae at apex; apex of mesothoracic tibiae each with black spur and 4 small, black, anterior setae; apex of metathoracic tibiae each with yellow anterior setae and yellow posterior comb. Wing length from humeral crossvein 2.41 to 2.55 mm; width 0.85 to 1.02 mm; distance from h to R_1 0.51 to 0.58 mm; R_1 to R_{2+3} 1.26 to 1.43 mm; R_{2+3} to R_{4+5} 0.58 to 0.65 mm. R_{4+5} to M_1+2 0.20 to 0.27 mm; length R_{4+5} 1.63 to 1.77 mm; length M_1+2 1.02 to 1.09 mm; costal section from R_1 to R_{2+3} 2.2 to 2.6 times distance from h to R_1 ; R_1 to R_{2+3} 2.2 to 2.5 times distance from R_{2+3} to R_{4+5} ; and R_{2+3} to R_{4+5} 2.1 to 3.0 times distance from R_{4+5} to M_1+2 .

Abdomen as in Fig. 1; shining black with sparse coppery pruinosity; tergites 1 through 4 deeply sculptured dorsally, tergite 5 sculptured only along anterior dorsal margin. Sternite 1

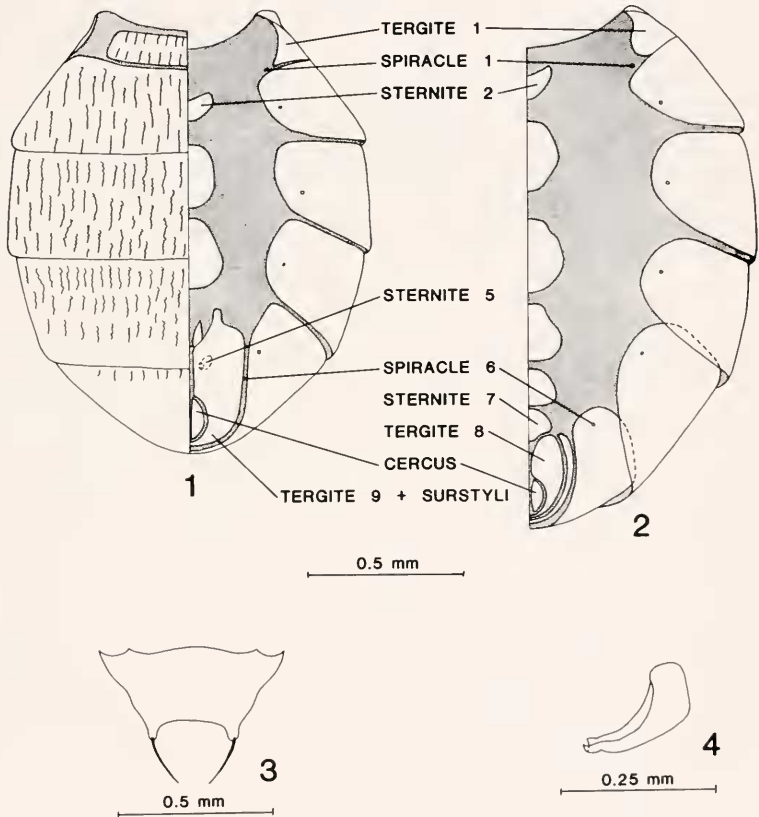


Fig. 1 - Male abdomen - *Pelina mathisi* Clausen. Fig. 2 - Female abdomen - *Pelina mathisi* Clausen. Fig. 3 - Scutellum - *Pelina mathisi* Clausen. Fig. 4 - ventral receptacle - *Pelina mathisi* Clausen.